

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 IO-13 COME-00 CU-04 BIB-01
HA-05 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00
DOE-11 SOE-02 NRC-05 /112 W
-----112259 011436Z /46

R 010606Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4817
SECDEF WASHDC
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 0747

MOSCOW FOR DAO; STATE FOR EUR/RPM, EUR/SOV, ACDA FROM
USDEL CSCE

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, OCON
SUBJ: BELGRADE CSCE/CBMS - OBSERVER REPORT, SOVIET MANEUVER
"BEREZINA"

REF: 77 BELGRADE 7871 (NOTAL)

1. ONE OF THE RECURRING TOPICS OF CBMS DEBATE AT BELGRADE
CSCE MEETING HAS BEEN TREATMENT OF OBSERVERS.
NATO ALLIES AND NEUTRAL/NON-ALIGNED GROUP HAVE
ADVOCATED A CODE TO ASSURE UNIFORM TREATMENT OF
OBSERVERS AND MEANINGFUL OBSERVER EXPERIENCE. SOVIET
UNION, WHICH HAS BEEN CRITICISED FOR RESTRICTIVE
TREATMENT OF OBSERVERS, HAS ARGUED THAT OBSERVER EXPERIENCES
HAVE BEEN SATISFACTORY AND THAT NO CODE IS NECESSARY.
REPORTS FROM OBSERVERS AT SOVIET MANEUVERS HAVE INDICATED
THAT WHILE THERE HAS BEEN SOME IMPROVEMENT OVER PAST
TWO YEARS, SOVIET IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS CBM FALLS
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FAR SHORT OF THAT OF WEST AND NEUTRAL/NON-ALIGNED
STATES. SOVIET TREATMENT OF OBSERVERS IN THEIR
MOST RECENT MANEUVERS, APPARENTLY THE MOST LIBERAL IN
THEIR IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS CBM, IS REPORTED IN REFTTEL
(BEING REPEATED TO MOSCOW AND SECDEF).

2. IN VIEW OF CONTINUING TOPICALITY OF THIS SUBJECT

HERE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY
REPORT OF EXPERIENCE OF US OBSERVERS AT MANEUVER
BEREZINA. ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING SPECIFIC QUESTIONS
WOULD BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST.

- A. BRIEFINGS - NATURE, FREQUENCY, ADEQUACY?
 - B. OBSERVATION POSTS - FIXED OR MOBILE?
 - C. WERE PARTS OF MANEUVER SHOWN, OR WERE TACTICAL EXERCISES
STAGED FOR OBSERVERS?
 - D. WERE VISITS TO EXERCISE AREA PERMITTED? TO COMMAND POSTS?
WAS PERSONAL CONTACT WITH COMMANDERS, STAFFS AND TROOPS
PERMITTED?
 - E. WERE QUESTIONS PERMITTED AND WERE SATISFACTORY ANSWERS GIVEN?
 - F. WERE BINOCULARS AND CAMERAS ALLOWED? WERE MAPS ISSUED AND
WERE THEY ADEQUATE TO FOLLOW COURSE OF MANEUVER?
 - G. WHAT WAS THE NATURE OF FACILITIES AND WERE THEY ADEQUATE
(TRANSPOTATION, ESCORTS, TELEPHONE LIAISON WITH EMBASSIES,
AND BOARD AND LOGDING)?
 - H. OVERALL, WERE OBSERVERS ABLE TO GAIN A GOOD
UNDERSTANDING OF THE MANEUVER SCENARIO AND FOLLOW ITS
DEVELOPMENT?
- GOLDBERG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BELGRA00747
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780048-0300
Format: TEL
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197802108/aaaadnmw.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 367c08ce-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BELGRADE 7871
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3447975
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BELGRADE CSCE/CBMS - OBSERVER REPORT, SOVIET MANEUVER \"BEREZINA\"
TAGS: OCON, CSCE
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/367c08ce-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014